

November 20, 2019 Consultation Meeting with Santee Sioux Nation

Chairman Roger Trudell

Historic ties to the Black Hills. Present day journeys for ceremonial purposes

Signers of the 1868 treaty

Number of cultural sites exist, Bear Butte, Sundance areas, ceremonial plants.

Concerns about injection of water, how can they contain all the ISR contaminants.

Concerns about wildlife and livestock.

Opposed to removal of uranium. Once it is out of the ground, becomes more dangerous.

The Creator put many things in the ground for a purpose. Once removed from the ground, not linked to purpose, not compatible to humans. Stealing from the ground.

Mining is a Violation of treaty rights.

Burials took place in the black Hills and surrounding areas. Potential to lose what was buried with those people and disturbance of burial grounds. Not appropriate. Anywhere where prayers are made is sacred ground and should be treated as such.

If OST, CRST, SRST are against it, Santee Sioux would support that. Chairman Trudell and tribal council opposed.

What prevents seepage of deep injection wells into underground sources of drinking water. Leaking is always possibly regardless of permit application.

Stuart Redwing Tribal Secretary joined the meeting at 3:05 pm. Sits on Nebraska Committee of Indian Affairs. This along with the oil pipeline. Big oil spill in ND over that pipeline. Third one. First one by Freedman, second by Sisseton. Third one amount underestimate. Found by farmer in field, tractor got bogged down.

Fracking issues while drilling. Methane release into drinking water and wells. Companies claim safe and fast, but these problems arise.

Water table getting shallower. Need to protect what we have.

Medicinal plants: sage, sweet grass. NE Audobon: want to start sweet grass growing. Quite a few folks go out and harvest plants – sweet grass not abundant here. Sage along highway has pesticide.

Four biospheres come together here: desert, deciduous, coniferous, prairie grass. Cactus, wild turnup. Purple flower, dig up root.

Duane Whipple is the tribal historian and museum curator. He is looking to hire a THPO soon.

Have any of the companies that have been drilling oil wells or any industrial activities, including uranium, gold, timber, been truthful forthcoming about what they have found as far as sacred sites and artifacts? There should have been consultation.

Mr. Redwing was instrumental in getting the MOU for pesticide governance between EPA Regio 7, state and Tribe. Pesticide officer. Tribal Pesticide Policy Council – other tribal pesticide officers.

example of gov't to gov't consultation. 2011 floods. State, County & Fed gov't.

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